

What is claimed is:

1. An optical fuse comprising:

a medium constituting a structure in which a light-emitting end of a first optical waveguide is coupled to a light-incident end of a second optical waveguide across said medium, said medium being transparent to light passing through said structure; and

a light-absorbing body adapted to absorb said light, said light-absorbing body being disposed in contact with an outer peripheral surface of said medium in such a manner as to allow a part of light emitted from said light-emitting end into said medium to reach said light-absorbing body.

2. The optical fuse as defined in claim 1, wherein said medium is formed to allow a cross-sectional area orthogonal to a propagation direction of light therein to have a minimum value at a position located in a zone of said medium interposed between said light-emitting end and said light-incident end.

3. The optical fuse as defined in claim 1 or 2, wherein at least one of said first and second light waveguides consists of an optical fiber, and said structure includes a retention portion for fixing said optical fiber, said retention portion being disposed away from an interface between said medium and said light-emitting or light-incident end comprised of said optical fiber, in such a manner as to allow a zone of said optical fiber between said retention portion and said interface to be bent.

4. A device for fabricating an optical fuse, comprising:

a pair of first and second support members formed, respectively, with first and second through-holes for supporting an optical fiber; and

a beam member mechanically connecting said first and second support member together,

wherein, when said first and second support members are arranged such that respective

axes of said first and second through-holes are aligned in a straight line to allow a single common optical fiber to be inserted into both said first and second through-holes, a spacial gap is formed between said single common optical fiber and said beam member.

5. The device as defined in claim 4, wherein said beam member has a groove formed at an intermediate position thereof.